UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF

IPF:(1987-91) $ 17 900 000

(BRA/90/032) - Institutional Development of the Ministry of Health

Date of approval by the AC:[1/]	4 December 1991
Expected duration:	Six years
Proposed executing agency:	Government
Government implementing agency:	Ministry of Health
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$ 380 000 Source of funds: IPF
Government cost sharing:	$ 40 728 000
Total UNDP budget:	$ 41 108 000

Project background

Brazil with a population of 150 million people of which 53 million are below 15 years of age presents a major challenge in the health sector, particularly when more than 40 per cent of the families live below the poverty level. The Northeast region of Brazil shows severe health problems that are comparable to those of least developed countries. The situation is characterized by acute levels of poverty where 62.4 per cent of the families live below the poverty level affecting to a greater extent children, women and adolescents. Infant mortality rates for the region are the highest in the country reaching a level of 103 per 1,000 born, leading to nearly 70,000 deaths per year. There are also 30 million adolescents between the ages of ten and nineteen in the region, comprising 30 percent of all adolescents in the country, who suffer from malnutrition and a lack of basic health care. The problem is compounded among young mothers and women on the whole, thus creating problems which afflict them during their reproductive age.

[1/] **This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.**

The Government has embarked on a Five-Year Health Plan for 1990-1995, which stresses the need to co-ordinate and lead efforts towards the promotion, protection and restoration of health, identifying risks and needs, thus prolonging and improving the quality of life of the entire Brazilian population and contributing to national development. The Health Plan seeks to decentralize the systems and mechanisms for decision-making to the states and municipalities in order to carry out more effectively its policies, since in the past several programmes have had difficulties with the centralized decision-making structure of the country. As a result of this decentralization efforts, the Government signed a loan agreement with IBRD in 1990 to implement a second phase of the Northeast Basic Health Services Programme (PNE II).

Description of project

The development objectives of the project are to: (a) strengthen institutions, social impact and social mobilization; and (b) alleviate poverty.

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) upgrade managerial and operative capacity of the Northeast Basic Health Services Programme at the federal and state levels; (b) implement systems and mechanisms for technical coperation in health programmes between this programme and the technical departments of the Ministry; (c) create a system of human resources information to support the definition of policies and guidelines of health services; (d) develop a permanent system for training human resources in health that meets the demand of the integrated health system; (e) restructure planning sector, technical and administrative management of the programmes for women, adolescents and children's health; (f) refine the management process and state co-ordination for maternal child health programmes; (g) formulate guidelines, define actions and draw up standard for the implementation of policies related to the health, feeding and nutrition of women adolescents and children; and (h) prepare a detail plan of information, education and communication for health for the 1992-1995 period.

Inputs

UNDP will provide 3.205 work-months of international and national professional personnel in management of health 1.199 work-months budgeting 160 work-months financial systems 160 work-months sectorial planning 459 work-months medicine 358 work-months nursing 155 work-months information systems 87 work-months psychology 18 work-months, training specialists 304 work-months monitoring and evaluation 69 work-months management systems 30 work-months nutritionists 110 work-months communication specialist 26 work-months social communication 29 work-months and education 26 work-months; subcontracts for technical studies in financial information, management systems, planning, promotion and remuneration of personnel, and information systems; training programmes in management skills, human resource development, maternal and child health care programmes and nutrition; equipment for information systems and demographic census; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	15 680 900
Subcontract	15 145 500
Training	8 200 900
Equipment	380 000
Miscellaneous	1 700 700
Total	41 108 000